

I claim:

1. A wind machine comprising:

a. a frame including a base, and a carrier rotatable in the base about an axis of rotation, the carrier comprising a plurality of pairs of first and second arms; and

b. a plurality of fabrics each removably installed on a respective pair of carrier first and second arms, each fabric comprising:

i. a net comprising a multiplicity of intersecting strands and having a first end removeably supported on a carrier first arm, a second end removeably supported on a carrier second arm, and opposed sides; and

ii. a plurality of panels each connected to the net for pivoting between a closed position whereat the panel is generally alongside the net and an open position whereat the panel is at approximately 90 degrees to the closed position.

2. The wind machine of claim 1 wherein each fabric net includes a loop at the first end thereof, the loop being slideable on the carrier first arm to install and remove the fabric on the carrier.

3. The wind machine of claim 1 wherein each fabric net includes a piece of material at the second end thereof, the piece of material having a plurality of holes therein that cooperate with the carrier second arm to install and remove the fabric on the carrier.

4. The wind machine of claim 2 wherein the net loop comprises a piece of flexible material attached to the fabric net.

5. The wind machine of claim 2 wherein the net loop is constructed by doubling the net over onto itself into a loop and joining overlapping net strands to each other.

6. The wind machine of claim 2 wherein the net loop is continuous between the net sides.

7. The wind machine of claim 1 wherein the fabric net comprises means for sliding over the carrier first arm.

8. The wind machine of claim 3 wherein:

- a. the carrier second arm includes a plurality of studs;
- b. the holes in the net piece of material are placed over respective studs on the carrier second arm; and
- c. the carrier second arm is turnable and lockable to enable a tension to be imparted and maintained on the fabric.

9. The wind machine of claim 1 further comprising means for imparting a tension on the fabric.

10. The wind machine of claim 9 wherein the means for imparting a tension comprises:

- a. a plurality of studs on the carrier second arm;
- b. a plurality of holes in the net second end that receive associated studs on the carrier second arm; and
- c. means for turning the carrier second arm to a desired angular orientation such that a tension is imparted on the fabric between the first and second ends thereof; and
- d. means for locking the second arm at the desired angular orientation to thereby maintain the tension on the fabric.

11. The wind machine of claim 1 wherein:

- a. the carrier axis of rotation is vertical;
- b. the fabrics lie in respective planes that are generally vertical as the carrier rotates;
- c. the fabric net strands consist of generally horizontal and vertical strands; and
- d. the panels are pivotally connected to the net horizontal strands.

12. The wind machine of claim 1 wherein:

- a. the carrier axis of rotation is horizontal; and
- b. the fabrics lie in respective planes that change between horizontal and vertical as the carrier rotates.

13. The wind machine of claim 1 wherein:

- a. the net strands comprise a multiplicity of generally parallel first strands;
- b. a first row of panels having at least two panels

therein is pivotally connected to a selected first net strand; and
c. a second row of panels having at least two panels
therein is pivotally connected to a selected second net strand.

5 14. The wind machine of claim 13 wherein the panels of the
second row of panels partially overlies the panels on the first row of
panels when the panels are in the closed position.

15. The wind machine of claim 1 wherein:

10 a. the net strands comprise a multiplicity of generally
parallel first strands;

 b. each panel has a first edge with at least one tab
thereon that is pivotally connected to an associated net strand, and
a second edge opposite the first edge;

15 c. the panels are pivotally connected to the net in
adjacent rows; and

 d. the second edges of the panels of a first row of panels
are generally aligned with the first edges of the panels of a second
row of panels when the panels are in the closed position.

20 16. In combination:

 a. a frame comprising:

 i. a base;

25 ii. a shaft that rotates in the base about an axis of
rotation; and

 iii. at least three pairs of arms extending from the
shaft, each pair of arms having a first arm and a second arm; and

 b. at least three fabrics each removeably installed on a
respective pair of carrier arms, each fabric comprising:

30 i. a net having first and second ends removeably
supported on the carrier first and second arms, respectively; and

 ii. a plurality of panels each pivotally connected to
the fabric net for pivoting between open and closed positions.

35 17. The combination of claim 16 wherein:

 a. the carrier first arm is fixed to the shaft;

 b. the carrier second arm is turnable in the shaft; and

 c. the shaft comprises means for locking each carrier
second arm at a selected angular orientation relative to the shaft.

18. The combination of claim 16 wherein:

a. the carrier second arm includes a plurality of studs;
and

b. each fabric comprises means for cooperating with the
5 carrier second arm studs to support the net second end on the
carrier second arm.

19. The combination of claim 16 wherein:

a. the carrier second arm includes a plurality of studs;
10 and

b. the fabric net first end defines a plurality of holes
that cooperate with the studs to support the net second end on the
carrier second arm.

20. The combination of claim 16 further comprising means for
15 imparting and maintaining a tension on the fabric.

21. The combination of claim 20 wherein the means for imparting
a tension comprises:

a. a plurality of studs on the carrier second arm;

b. a piece of material on the fabric net second end and
received in the studs on the carrier second arm;

c. means for enabling the carrier second arm to turn in
the shaft to a desired angular orientation such that a tension is
25 imparted on the fabric; and

d. means for locking the carrier second arm at the desired
angular orientation and thereby maintaining the tension on the
fabric.

22. The combination of claim 16 wherein the net first end
30 includes a loop that supports the fabric first end on the carrier
first arm.

23. The combination of claim 22 wherein the net loop comprises
a flexible piece of material attached to the net.

24. The combination of claim 22 wherein the net loop is
35 constructed by doubling the net over onto itself in a loop and
joining the net to itself.

25. The combination of claim 22 further comprising means for
imparting a tension on the fabric.

26. The combination of claim 22 wherein:

- a. the carrier first arm is fixed to the shaft;
- b. the carrier second arm is turnable in the shaft;
- c. the carrier second arm includes a plurality of studs;

5 and

d. a piece of material is on the fabric net second end and receives the studs on the carrier second arm,

so that the carrier second arm is turnable to a desired angular orientation to impart a tension on the fabric.

10 27. The combination of claim 26 further comprising means for locking the carrier second arm at the desired angular orientation and thereby maintaining the tension on the fabric.

28. The combination of claim 16 wherein the shaft axis of rotation is vertical.

15 29. The combination of claim 16 wherein the shaft axis of rotation is horizontal.

30. The combination of claim 16 wherein:

a. each fabric net is constructed of a multiplicity of vertical and horizontal strands; and

20 b. the panels are pivotally connected to the net horizontal strands.

31. The combination of claim 16 wherein:

a. each fabric net is comprised of a multiplicity of first strands that intersect a multiplicity of second strands;

25 b. multiple first panels are pivotally connected in a first row to a first selected net first strand; and

c. multiple second panels are pivotally connected in a second row to a second selected net first strand.

30 32. The combination of claim 31 wherein the panels of the first row thereof partially overlies the panels of the second row thereof when the panels are in the closed position.

33. A method of constructing a wind machine comprising the steps of:

a. providing a base;

35 b. providing a carrier rotatable in the base and having a plurality of pairs of first and second arms;

c. providing multiple fabrics each having a net with first and second ends and multiple panels pivotally connected to the net; and

d. installing each fabric on a respective pair of carrier first and second arms comprising the steps of:

i. removeably supporting the net first end on the carrier first arm; and

5 ii. removeably supporting the net second end on the carrier second arm.

34. The method of claim 33 wherein the step of removably supporting the net first end comprises the steps of providing a loop
10 at the net first end, and supporting the net loop on the carrier first arm.

35. The method of claim 33 wherein:

a. the step of providing a carrier comprises the step of
15 providing the second arm of each carrier pair of arms with a plurality of studs; and

b. the step of removably supporting the net second end comprises the step receiving the studs on the carrier second arm into associated holes in the net second end.

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36. The method of claim 35 comprising the further step of turning the carrier second arm in a first direction to a desired angular orientation and imparting a tension on the fabric.

25 37. The method of claim 36 comprising the further step of locking the carrier second arm at the desired angular orientation and thereby maintaining the tension on the fabric.

30 38. The method of claim 33 comprising the further step of imparting a tension on each fabric subsequent to installing each fabric on the carrier.

39. The method of claim 37 comprising the further steps of:

a. unlocking the carrier second arm; and

b. turning the carrier second arm in a second direction
35 opposite the first direction and thereby eliminating the tension on the fabric.

40. The method of claim 39 comprising the further steps of:

a. removing the studs from the net holes; and

b. removing the fabrics from the carrier arms.